

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

In the specification Example 1 on page 14, lines 7-21 replace the paragraph with the following paragraph. This amendment is being made for a typographical correction, support for which can be found at page 10, line 12 and throughout the disclosure.

EXAMPLE 1

100 parts by weight of an extrusion molding grade of polyethylene pellets having a melt index of 0.2 and density of 0.922 g/cm³ are coated by tumbling with 1.2 parts by weight of vinyltriethoxysilane having dissolved therein 2.5 parts by weight of 1,1 Di(tertbutylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethylcyclohexane having a 0.1 hour half-life temperature of 128°C, 2.5 parts by weight of Di-tert-butyl peroxide having a 0.1 hour half-life temperature of 164°C and 3 parts by weight of dibutyltin ~~dilaureate~~ dilaurate condensation catalyst, until all of the liquid is taken up. The composition is then extruded in a single screw extruder under the following conditions:

Temperature of screw: 60° C.

Temperature of barrel zone 1: 170° C.

Temperature of barrel zone 2: 220° C.

Screw speed: 20 r.p.m.

The residence time of the polyethylene in the machine is approximately 1 to 2 minutes.

In the specification on page 15, lines 3-8 replace the paragraph with the following paragraph.

This amendment is being made for a typographical correction, support for which can be found at page 10, line 12 and throughout the disclosure.

Base polyethylene resin (Escorene LD 166 BA, with an MFL of 0.2 g/10min at 190°C under a load of 2.16kg, and a density of 0.922 g/dm³): 98.8% by weight; and a premixed blend of silane, peroxide and catalyst (A-171 vinyltrimethoxy silane: 1.11% by weight; 1,1 Di(tertbutylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethylcyclohexane: .028% by weight; Di-tert-butyl peroxide: .028 % by weight; dibutyltin ~~dilaureate~~ dilaurate condensation catalyst: .033% by weight): 1.2% by weight.

In the specification on page 17, lines 5-12 replace the paragraph with the following paragraph. This amendment is being made for a typographical correction, support for which can be found at page 10, line 12 and throughout the disclosure.

Base polyethylene resin (Escorene LD 166 BA, with an MFL of 0.2 g/10min at 190°C under a load of 2.16kg, and a density of 0.922 g/dm³): 86.9% by weight; a carbon black masterbatch (Black Plastback PE2737): 7% by weight; an anti-oxidant masterbatch (MBMM21085): 1.1% by weight; porous organic carrier pellets (Pearlene 200HD): 3.5% by weight; and a premixed blend of silane, peroxide and catalyst (A-171 vinyltrimethoxy silane: 91.5% by weight; 1,1 Di(tertbutylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethylcyclohexane: 1.5% by weight; tert-butyl cumyl peroxide: 2% by weight; di-tertbutylperoxide: 2% by weight; dibutyltin ~~dilaureate~~ dilaurate condensation catalyst: 3% by weight): 1.5% by weight.

In the specification on page 18, lines 6-12 replace the paragraph with the following paragraph. This amendment is being made for a typographical correction, support for which can be found at page 10, line 12 and throughout the disclosure.

Base polyethylene resin (Escorene LD 166 BA, with an MFL of 0.2 g/10min at 190°C under a load of 2.16kg, and a density of 0.922 g/dm³): 86.9% by weight; a carbon black masterbatch (Black Plastback PE2737): 7% by weight; an anti-oxidant masterbatch (MBMM21085): 1.1% by weight; porous organic carrier pellets (Pearlene 200HD): 3.5% by weight; and a premixed blend of silane, peroxide and catalyst (A-171 vinyltrimethoxy silane: 92.5% by weight; di-tertbutylperoxide: 4.5% by weight; dibutyltin ~~dilaureate~~ dilaurate condensation catalyst: 3% by weight): 1.5% by weight.

In the specification on page 19, lines 15-21 replace the paragraph with the following paragraph. This amendment is being made for a typographical correction, support for which can be found at page 10, line 12 and throughout the disclosure.

Base polyethylene resin (Exxon LL 4004 EL, with an MFL of 0.33 g/10min at 190°C under a load of 2.16kg, and a density of 0.922 g/dm³): 98.4% by weight; an anti-oxidant/color masterbatch: 0.6% by weight; and a premixed blend of silane, peroxide and catalyst (A-171 vinyltrimethoxy silane: 93.75% by weight; 1,1 Di(tertbutylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethylcyclohexane: 0.75% by weight; tert-butyl cumyl peroxide: 1.5% by weight; di-tertbutylperoxide: 1.5% by weight; dibutyltin ~~dilaureate~~ dilaurate condensation catalyst: 2.5% by weight): 1.0% by weight.

In the specification on page 20, lines 16-22 replace the paragraph with the following paragraph. This amendment is being made for a typographical correction, support for which can be found at page 10, line 12 and throughout the disclosure.

Base polyethylene resin (Exxon LL 4004 EL, with an MFL of 0.33 g/10min at 190°C under a load of 2.16kg, and a density of 0.922 g/dm³): 98.2% by weight; an anti-oxidant/color masterbatch: 0.6% by weight; and a premixed blend of silane, peroxide and catalyst (A-171 vinyltrimethoxy silane: 93.75% by weight; 1,1 Di(tertbutylperoxy)-3,3,5-trimethylcyclohexane: 0.75% by weight; tert-butyl cumyl peroxide: 1.5% by weight; di-tertbutylperoxide: 1.5% by weight; dibutyltin ~~dilaureate~~ dilaurate condensation catalyst: 2.5% by weight): 1.2% by weight.